

To determine the amount, location, and state of blight which exists in the Wendell planning area, several indicators are used. For the purposes of this chapter, they will be referred to as social and physical indicators. Included in the following sections are analyses of the areas in which these indicators have been outstanding relative to other areas. Information such as age of structures, dwelling unit value, fire calls, crimes against persons, and juvenile arrests was not available for the analysis. It is felt, however, that the indicators used are sufficient for determining where blight exists.

SOCIAL INDICATORS

Social conditions in the community were disclosed by using indicators such as communicable diseases, which, for the purpose of this study, were limited to tuberculosis and venereal disease, illegitimate births, infant deaths, arrests, and welfare cases. Welfare cases were limited to aid to dependent children and to the disabled. Other indicators such as teenage arrests and crimes against persons are combined because of the lack of records on specific cases in the town and are recorded not as instances but as areas of frequent occurrence. The sources of information for the cases in point were the Wake County Health Department and the Wendell Police Department.

ILLEGITIMACY

Between 1958 and 1962 there were forty-two illegitimate births in the Wendell planning area. Of these, thirty-six or 85.7 percent occurred in the fringe area, and six or 14.3 percent took place within the town limits.